

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06

NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 /053 W
----- 114206

R 060445Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8912

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 14346

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, RP

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS PROGRAM FOR PHILIPPINES - NCAP FOR
FY 75 AND FY 76

REF: A. STATE 257501 B. MANILA 11529

C. MANILA A-279 AND A-318

1. OUR PROGRAM TO ASSIST AND SUPPORT THE PHILIPPINES ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRENGTHENING OF PHILIPPINE DEFENSES AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING. DESPITE EARLIER INDICATIONS OF A RAPIDLY DETERIORATING DRUG SITUATION, THE RP HAS WITH OUR HELP MOUNTED AN ENERGETIC, RATIONAL PROGRAM NATIONWIDE TO REVERSE THE DOWNWARD TREND. HOWEVER, THE JOINT PROGRAM IS INCOMPLETE AND CANNOT BE COMPLETED IN FY 75. REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OUR PROPOSAL FOR FY 76 PROGRAM WITH CHANGES AS FOLLOWS:

2. ALTHOUGH CHARACTERIZED AS A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM, THE PHILIPPINE NCAP BEGAN ON JUNE 30, 1972, AND OUR NARCOTICS ADVISOR ARRIVED IN AGUGUST 1972; AS OF JUNE 30, 1975, THE PHILIPPINE NCAP WILL HAGE BEEN IN EXISTENCE 3 YEARS TO THE DAY. TERMINATION OF THE NCAP AT THE END OF FY 75 WOULD LEAVE A COHERENT PACKAGE SEVERELY TRUNCATED, WITH FOUR MAJOR FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM UNFINISHED: TRAINING
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ACADEMIES, CANU, ASAC, AND CUSTOMS.

3. WE HAVE REITERATED PERSISTENTLY THAT TRAINING IS THE KEY TO OUR SUPPORT EFFORT, COUPLED WITH COMMODITY ASSISTANCE AND ADVISORY SERVICE, TO ENSURE THAT THE PROGRAM WAS WELL FOUNDED, LOGICALLY IMPLEMENTED, AND CAPABLE OF SUSTAINED MOVEMENT. WE HAVE BEEN DETERMINED THAT OURS WILL NOT BE MERELY A "COMMODITY DROP," BUT A PROGRAM WITH DURABILITY.

4. AS THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, OUR FIRST TARGET WAS TO GET TRAINED NARCOTICS AGENTS ON THE STREETS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE IN ALL MAJOR URBAN AREAS IN THE COUNTRY. IN JANUARY 1973 (SIX MONTHS AFTER THE NCAP WAS INAUGURATED) AN IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM WAS STARTED BY THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION THAT CONCENTRATED INITIALLY ON CITY POLICE OFFICERS BECAUSE THEY COMPRISED THE BULK OF AVAILABLE MANPOWER. BY MID-1973 THE FIRST TRAINED POLICE NARCOTICS TEAMS WERE SUPPLIED AND ON THE STREETS. TO DATE OVER 600 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF FOUR WEEKS OF SPECIALIZED NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT TRAINING. (THE TRAINING COURSE NOW RUNS EIGHT WEEKS.) TRAINING HAS STEADILY BEEN EXPANDED AND EXTENDED TO OTHER ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING. BUT TRAINING FACILITIES ARE LIMITED AND MODERN TRAINING AIDS ARE IN SHORT SUPPLY. SEVERAL FOREIGN STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED IN RECENT NARCOTICS COURSES BUT ACCOMMODATIONS AT PRESENT ARE LIMITED.

5. TRAINING ACADEMIES: BECAUSE THE CORE OF OUR PROGRAM IS TRAINING AND BECAUSE OUR MAJOR HOPE FOR A DURABLE EFFECT IS BASED ON A SELF-SUSTAINING PHILIPPINE PROGRAM OF TRAINING, WE HAVE PLANNED A TWO-YEAR CYCLE (FY 75 AND FY 76) TO UPGRADE THE CAPABILITY OF THE NINE POLCOM ACADEMIES TO CONDUCT NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATION COURSES. WHEN THE US NCAP TERMINATES THESE NINE ACADEMIES MUST BE ABLE TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING ESSENTIAL TO NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS. ALTHOUGH THE MAIN BURDEN OF THIS TRAINING HAS BEEN CONDUCTED HERETOFORE BY THE NATIONAL ACADEMY AT FORT BONIFACIO (GREATER MANILA), ALL REGIONAL ACADEMIES ARE BEGINNING NOW TO PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 20 HOURS OF BASIC

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NARCOTICS IDENTIFICATION TO ALL POLICE TRAINEES AND WILL CONDUCT MORE SPECIALIZED COURSES AS THEIR CAPABILITY INCREASES.

6. WE PLAN TO PROVIDE COMMODITY SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY IN FY 75 IN TERMS OF INSTRUCTIONAL AIDS AT A COST OF \$2,500. THE FY 76 PROGRAM WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY AT A

COST OF \$1,000, FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,500 FOR THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD. IN ADDITIONAL IN FY 76, EACH OF THE EIGHT REGIONAL ACADEMIES WOULD RECEIVE SIMILAR COMMODITY ASSISTANCE AT A COST OF \$2,500 EACH, FOR A TOTAL OF \$20,000. THIS TWO-YEAR PLAN (FY 76 - FY 76) TO IMPORVE THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THE NINE ACADEMIES IS AN ESSENTIAL FEATURE OF OUR PROGRAM TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF SPECIALIZED NARCOTICS TRAINING AT AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL. IMPORVEMENT OF THESE ACADEMIES IS ALSO DIRECTLY RELATED TO PHILIPPINE PLANS TO EXPAND THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NARCOTICS-TYPE TRAINING ON A REGIONAL BASIS, IN WHICH A BEGINNING WAS MADE IN 1974 WITH TRAINEES FROM INDONESIA AND GUAM. THIS IS A PLAN WE HIGHLY ENDORSE AND WE PLAN TO SUPPORT IT BY ALL FEASIBLE MEANS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MANILA 14346

7. CANU: OUR REVISED PROPOSAL FOR SUPPORT TO CANU (MANILA A-318) ENVISAGED A THREE-YEAR PROGRAM (FY 74-76), WITH SUPPORT TO EIGHT TEAMS IN FY 76, SIX TEAMS IN FY 76, AND FIVE TEAMS IN FY 76, FOR A TOTAL OF 19 SIX-MAN TEAMS. GIVEN ALL THE GOODWILL IN WORLD, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SCHEDULE 100 CANU PERSONNEL FOR TRAINING DURING NEXT SIX TO NINE MONTHS. OUR PROGRAM IS FIRMLY BASED ON PROPOSITION THAT TRAINING MUST PRECEDE COMMODITY SUPPORT. WE CONSIDER THIS PARTICULARLY ESSENTIAL WITH REGARD CANU, BUT HAVE NEVER DEVIATED FROM THIS UNDERSTANDING FOR ANY OTHER AGENCY EITHER. OF THE MINIMUM CANU PERSONNEL (114) NEEDED TO MAN THE 19 SIX-MAN TEAMS, 18 HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO DATE,

INCLUDING TWO TRAINED IN US. ONLY ONE TRAINING COURSE HAS BEEN HELD HERE SINCE CANU PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM APPROVED. ONLY TWO MORE CLASSES SCHEDULED FOR FY 75. WILL ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN PLACES FOR AS MANY CANU OFFICERS AS POSSIBLE BUT CANNOT PREEMPT MAJORITY TRAINING SLOTS NOR CAN CANU AFFORD RELEASE MORE THAN 10-20 PERCENT ITS PERSONNEL FOR TRAINING AT ANY ONE TIME. AS CONSEQUENCE, REQUEST APPROVAL OF OUR PROPOSAL FOR THREE-YEAR CYCLE (FY 74 TO FY 76) TO COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR 19 CANU TEAMS.

8. ASAC: THE ANTI-SMULLGING ACTION CENTER IS ONE OF THREE ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES DIRECTLY REPRESENTED ON DANGEROUS DRUGS BOARD. IT IS ENERGETIC AND ACTIVE IN NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS. QUALITY OF ITS NARCOTICS ARREST AND CONFIDENTIAL

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SEIZURE RECORD COMPARES FAVORABLY WITH THAT ANY OTHER CENTRAL AGENCY INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS WORK. LEADERSHIP IS OUTSTANDING. WE PROPOSE A THREE-YEAR CYCLE (FY 74 TO FY 76) TO COMPLETE TRAINING AND COMMODITY SUPPORT TO 12 ASAC TEMAS SPECIALIZING IN NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS (5 TEAMS IN FY 74, 4 TEAMS IN FY 75, AND 3 TEAMS IN FY 76). CANNOT AGREE IT PRUDENT TO ABANDON SUPPORT TO THIS AGENCY WITH NUMBER OF PROGRAMMED TEAMS INCOMPLETE (I.E., FIVE OUT OF TWELVE SUPPORTED), PARTICULARLY WHEN TWO SISTER AGENCIES REPRESENTED ON DDB (NBI AND CANU) WILL HAVE OBTAINED FULL SUPPORT.

9. CUSTOMS: CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER HAS PROPOSED CREATION TEN SPECIALIZED CUSTOMS NARCOTICS TEAMS TO ENABLE THIS AGENCY TO MAINTAIN NATIONWIDE COVERAGE. WE PROPOSE TO SUPPORT 5 TEAMS IN FY 75 AND 5 TEAMS IN FY 76. LEADERSHIP OF CUSTOMS BUREAU DEEPLY INTERESTED IN IMPROVING ITS ANTI-NARCOTICS CAPABILITY. US CUSTOMS SERVICE RECENTLY COMPLETED SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR OVER 150 CUSTOMS PERSONNEL AND BUREAU PHASING ITS INVESTIGATORS THROUGH POLICE ACADEMY NARCOTICS COURSES FOR ENFORCEMENT TRAINING. BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT DESERT THIS PROGRAM IN MID-STREAM, ONLY HALF COMPLETED. REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OUR PORPOSAL FOR SUPPORT TO TEN CUSTOMS NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION TEAMS -- FIVE IN FY 76 AND FIVE IN FY 76.

10. ALTHOUGH IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND COAST GUARD ARE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN TOTAL PHILIPPINE ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORT, AGREE RELUCTANTLY TO ELIMINATE THESE AGENCIES FROM OUR PROGRAM.

11. BELIEVE STRONGLY, HOWEVER, THAT FY 76 INCREMENT OF NCAP MUST BE RESTORED TO ENABLE US COMPLETE OUR PROGRAM IN PHILIPPINES. ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY OF PHILIPPINE AGENCIES

AND INSTITUTIONS IS NOT AS GREAT AS WE OPTIMISTICALLY ESTIMATED AT EARLY STAGE OUR NCAP. AS CONSEQUENCE, WE CAN NEITHER JEOPARDIZING EXCELLENT WORKING RELATIONS ESTABLISHED TO DATE. MAJOR PURPOSE THIS PROGRAM IS TO OBTAIN HARMOCIOUS WORKING RELATIONS WITH PHILIPPINE AGENCIES CAPABLE OF COOPERATING IN FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.

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12. PROPOSED REVISION OF FY 75 PROGRAM TO READ:

CUSTOMS	5 TEAMS	\$67,500	
OLONGAPO	1 TEAM	10,500	
ANGELES CITY	1 TEAM	10,500	
FDA	2 VEHICLES	12,000	
POLICE ACADEMY	TRAINING MATERIALS	2,500	
CANU	6 TEAMS	78,000	
ASAC	4 TEAMS	54,000	
DIRECT HIRE	1 ADVISOR	40,000	
	TOTAL	\$275,000	

13. PROPOSED EXTENSION NCAP TO INCLUDE FY 76 AS FOLLOWS:

CANU	5 TEAMS	\$65,000	
ASAC	3 TEAMS	40,500	
CUSTOMS	5 TEAMS	67,500	
POLICE ACADEMIES (9)	TRAINING MATERIALS	21,000	
DIRECT HIRE		47,000	
	TOTAL	\$241,000	

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